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PREFACE

This volume reports the results of recent researches carried out mostly between 1990 and 1995, on the social, ecological, and linguistic aspects of the !Gui and ||Gana San (Basarwa) residing in the Xade Area within the Central Kalahari Game Reserve, Republic of Botswana. The goal of the researches reported herein has been to build further on past research by systematically elucidating the livelihood, economics, social relations, face-to-face interactions, and language of the !Gui and ||Gana who are currently undergoing extremely rapid cultural transformations.

All of the papers compiled in this volume were written by Japanese anthropologists and linguists who have collaborated in three different projects financially supported by the Grant-in-aid for Scientific Research (International Academic Research) from the Ministry of Education, Science, and Culture, Japan: A Study of Ecological Anthropology on the Consistency and Change in Traditional Societies of Africa (1988-1990), Ethnic Diversity in the Kalahari and Its Ecotone (1995-1997), both of which were organized by J. Tanaka, and Anthropological Study of Changing Socio-ecology of the San (1992-1994) organized by K. Sugawara.

We hope that this volume will contribute to the advancement of the wide-ranging studies on the San hunter-gatherers, as well as aid in the formulation of future policies concerning the !Gui and ||Gana, and lead to their future development and further enhancement of their welfare.

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